



Timothy K. Cameron
SHERIFF

Office of the Sheriff

St. Mary's County, Maryland

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**An Internationally
Accredited Agency**

February 28th, 2025

TO: Sheriff Steven A. Hall, St. Mary's County, Maryland

SUBJECT: Analysis of Vehicle Pursuits for January-December 2024

The following is an analysis for Vehicle Pursuit incidents involving deputy sheriffs with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) during the period of January 1st, 2024, through December 31st, 2024. The Sheriff's Office established a comprehensive Emergency Driving Policy in July 1996, as well as a Vehicle Pursuit Review report. Statistical data for this report was derived from the Vehicle Pursuit Reviews completed by the involved officer's immediate supervisor and submitted through the Chain of Command via Blue Team for final approval. Upon final approval, the report is forwarded to the Office of Professional Responsibilities where it is reviewed once again and placed into the IAPro database software. Enclosed below is the 2024 pursuit incident data, obtained from the IAPro database, which has subsequently been compared against the 2023 and 2022 data:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
• Total Number of Pursuits	8	10	8
• Number of Pursuits Initiated by SMCSO	6	10	7
• Pursuits Documented by In Car Camera	8	10	8
• Suspected DWI as Reason for Pursuit	1	2	2
• Number of Pursuits Aborted	0	3	3
• Number of Involved Officers	26	23	34
• Avg. Number of Officers per Pursuit	3.2	2.3	**4.3
• Pursuits Not Within Policy	0	1	2
• Avg. Length of Pursuit (miles)	11.4	4.2	3.5
• Stop Device Utilized	4	2	4
• Accident Occurred During Pursuit	4	4	1
• Injuries During Pursuit	2	2	2

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In accordance with Sheriff's Office policy, a comprehensive annual analysis of all vehicle pursuits conducted in 2024 has been completed. This analysis involved a detailed review of each individual pursuit, the systematic compilation of relevant data into the designated categories, and a comparative assessment against data from previous calendar years.

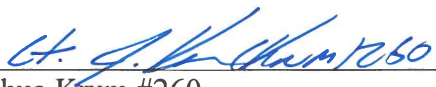
An analysis of the 2024 pursuit incidents indicates a decrease in total pursuit events, dropping from 10 incidents in 2023 to 8 incidents in 2024. Notably, of the 8 pursuits in 2024, two were initiated by outside agencies—Maryland State Police and the Charles County Sheriff's Office—with SMCSO personnel providing assistance during the pursuit of the violator vehicle(s).

In one specific incident that originated in Charles County and extended into St. Mary's County, SMCSO's involvement was limited to the strategic deployment of Stop Sticks (tire deflation devices). This strategic deployment of tire deflation devices effectively contributed to the successful termination of the pursuit, leading to the apprehension of the vehicle's occupants and the recovery of a firearm.

Further analysis of the 2024 pursuit incidents identified two pursuits exceeding 10 miles in length, marking an increase from 2023, which recorded only one such incident. Both of these pursuit incidents extended into Charles County and were initiated based on violent and felonious assaults (both involving the discharge of firearms) that occurred immediately prior to the observation of the violator's vehicle. The total pursuit distances for these incidents were 20.69 miles and 47.7 miles, respectively.

Analysis of each 2024 pursuit incident revealed SMCSO personnel's involvement in pursuing and/or deploying tire deflation devices during pursuit of the violator vehicle(s) aligned with Sheriff's Office policy.

****While conducting the 2024 yearly analysis, OPR discovered an error in the 2022 average number of involved officer data. In recalculating the average number of involved officers in comparison to the total pursuit incidents, it was determined the correct number of average involved officers for 2022 was 4.3 rather than 3.**


Joshua Krum #260
Lieutenant
Office of Professional Responsibilities

Agree

(☒) Yes () No, see indorsement.

Major:

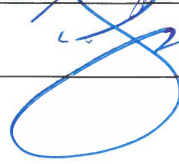


Date

2-28-25

(☒) Yes () No, see indorsement.

Sheriff:



Date

02/28/25